

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Dr. Pascal Spino of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, a remarkable physician.

After serving 60 years as a pediatrician, Dr. Spino is retiring after this long career. In 1954, he founded the first well baby clinic in Westmoreland County, which provides free exams and immunizations to children up to 6 years old. In 1972, Dr. Spino started the Render Any Needy Child Help program to provide medical care for abused children. He then went on to create a Level II nursery and modern pediatric department at Westmoreland Regional Hospital.

Dr. Spino has received a number of recognitions, including Dr. Spino Day in Westmoreland County, for his lifetime commitment to helping others. More than 4,000 people were in attendance, despite a downpour of rain.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Spino's career, personal sacrifice, and devotion to improving our health care system and helping children.

ARMY STAFF SERGEANT GREGORY RIVERA-SANTIAGO

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker and colleagues, I rise today bearing the grief of our community at the loss of yet another of our sons in the Iraq war. Army Staff Sergeant Gregory Rivera-Santiago was 26 years old. He was killed when his vehicle overturned in Baghdad. An Honor Guard of the 82nd Airborne Division escorted his body home this Monday. It was his third tour; he would have returned home in November.

In the midst of our deep sadness, I also come to the well of this House with great pride in this young man. An excellent student while at the St. Croix Educational Complex, a courageous soldier, a devoted husband, son, father, and friend.

Staff Sergeant Rivera-Santiago is the seventh soldier we have lost in Iraq from our small territory. It is a tragic reminder of a war gone wrong and gone on for far too long. It is time to begin the process of bringing our men and women home.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, we are eternally grateful for Gregory's life and service, and extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, his mother Mrs. Carmen Santiago, his wife Brooke, and their children. God bless them, God bless Gregory, and God bless all who are serving in our Armed Forces.

THE WALL DESECRATERS

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, "I do not believe that the men who served in uniform in Vietnam have been given the credit they deserve. It was a difficult war against an unorthodox enemy."

These are the words of General Westmoreland in the war where "all gave some and some gave all." But the disrespect continues. Now, despicable vandals have desecrated the sacred black granite Vietnam Wall. An oily, slimy, greasy substance was smeared over the Wall and the walkway. The Park Service is attempting to remove the damage, but the monument desecraters run free.

This monument bears the name of 56,000 warriors. They answered the call for America and they died in their youth. I grew up with friends whose names are on that wall.

The unpatriotic, cowardly, abusing criminals should be tracked down, prosecuted, and put in jail somewhere off the shores of America, maybe Guantanamo Bay.

It has been said that "Vietnam was a war that asked everything of a few and nothing of most in America." Now America must be resolved to capture these outlaws and restore dignity to those who died for the rest of us.

And that's just the way it is.

CHIP

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. As one of the original architects of CHIP in Pennsylvania, I have seen firsthand that it is possible to bring together public and private stakeholders and expand health coverage to millions of children, children of working families who cannot afford the increasing cost of coverage.

And now, the Democratic majority is poised to ensure that 10 million uninsured children in this country get the health care they need and deserve. The Democratic majority is delivering on our promise, and I am proud of the work that we have accomplished to expand health care to working families.

The American people understand the importance of getting health care to America's children. 270 organizations representing our Nation's seniors, nurses, unions, businesses have put aside their differences to urge for CHIP reauthorization. American families want and need us to maintain and expand CHIP. Their children are counting on us.

The next step is for Congress to approve this commonsense, compromise legislation, hopefully with Republican support, and send a strong message to the President to support our efforts towards the goal of insuring every American child.

FORTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE PEACE CORPS

(Mr. KLINE of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINE of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 46th anniversary of the United States Peace Corps. Saturday, September 22, marks the date on which Congress approved legislation formally authorizing the Peace Corps to promote world peace and friendship.

Since that time, more than 187,000 Peace Corps volunteers have been invited by 139 host countries to work on issues ranging from education to agricultural support and environmental preservation. Today's Peace Corps is more vital than ever, working and emerging in essential areas such as information technology and business development, and committing more than 1,000 new volunteers as part of the President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief.

I am proud that Minnesota's Second District is home to Carleton and St. Olaf Colleges. Both schools, located in Northfield, Minnesota have been recognized nationally for the large number of their graduates serving in the Peace Corps. These volunteers continue to help countless individuals who want to build a better life for themselves, their children, and their communities. It is an honor to stand before you to recognize the Corps and their volunteers.

TIME FOR A REAL CHANGE AND DIRECTION IN IRAQ

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage all of my colleagues in the House and the Senate to exercise the courage to begin a true new direction in Iraq.

Our brave men and women serving in our military are completing every mission they have been asked; and for that I thank them and America thanks them. But the President keeps moving the goalposts and redefining the mission.

Last week, the President announced a potential drawdown of troops from Iraq by July of 2008, leaving approximately 130,000 troops in Iraq. This is no change, and it is unacceptable.

The American people will not be fooled by these smoke-and-mirror tactics. The President said the surge was intended to provide time for the Iraqis to make political progress; yet, there has been no political progress and no improvement in the situation in Iraq. The Iraqis have only met 3 of 18 benchmarks for success, all the while they are mired in a religious civil war.

Enough is enough. It is time for real change and direction in Iraq.

A STRONG BULGARIA-INDIA RELATIONSHIP

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent trip by Bulgarian Prime Minister Sergei Stanishev to India to highlight the growing relationship between these two democracies. As co-chair of both the Bulgaria Caucus and the Caucus on India and Indian Americans, I am encouraged by this good news.

This visit marks a continuation of the economic relationship both nations have fostered by expanding their trade and investment opportunities. America will be a key ally of Bulgaria and India in providing growth for their partnership.

As a member of NATO and the European Union, Bulgaria is a friend of the United States. We are in a unique position to strengthen their relationship with our allies throughout the world. Additionally, India remains one of our strategic partners in Asia under the leadership of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. I am pleased that the United States and India are finalizing the civilian nuclear agreement that will expand the use of a clean energy source for India and fulfill our nonproliferation efforts.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

IRAQ

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, during the course of the war in Iraq, the American people have paid a very heavy price, not just financially, although the war has already cost over 400 billion taxpayer dollars, but also through the tragic loss of at least 3,775 American lives, with countless more injured. And under the President's plan to continue our failed policy in Iraq, these immense sacrifices will continue.

According to General Petraeus, if we go forward with this war as the President wants us to, on average, two U.S. men and women will die every day; another 15 will be wounded each day; and we will spend \$300 million each and every day we are there.

It seems that these massive losses do not register with some of my Republican colleagues who continue to support an open-ended commitment in Iraq. In fact, Republican Leader BOEHNER even said recently, when asked how much longer we should stay in Iraq, that the sacrifice being made will be a small price. I don't think so.

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HONORING FRANK BECKMANN

(Mr. McCOTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Frank Beckmann upon

the 35th anniversary of his distinguished broadcasting career at WJR, the great voice of the Great Lakes.

Since 1972, Frank Beckmann has steadily risen through the station's ranks until today he stands as a beloved, in most quarters, Detroit radio personality. Frank's iconic status was cemented in February of 2003 when the "Frank Beckmann Show" debuted. Over the ensuing years, Frank's commitment to providing fair and candid news has earned him a legion of fans and countless awards, which he, no doubt, is at the present time trying to count regardless.

Madam Speaker, over the years, Frank has enlightened and entertained radio audiences with his laid back humor, his probing interviews and his male pattern baldness.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Frank Beckmann's loyalty to his listeners, dedication to the truth, and enduring contribution to broadcasting, our community, and our country.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Science and Technology:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 19, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This letter is to advise you that, effective today, I am resigning my seat on the House Committee on Science and Technology.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL M. HONDA,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2881, FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 664 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 664

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2881) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2008 through 2011, to improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of

the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and the amendments considered as adopted by this resolution and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure now printed in the bill, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, modified by the amendment printed in part B of such report, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. During consideration in the House of H.R. 2881 pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Vermont is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART).

All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only, and I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Vermont?

There was no objection.

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 664 provides for consideration of H.R. 2881, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007, under a structured rule. The resolution provides 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and